



An Information & Quality Healthcare (IQH) Publication Serving the Mississippi Healthcare Community

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### Available Tools:

The Core Measures Pocket Guide for timeframe Jan. 1, 2014, through Sept. 30, 2014, is ready for downloading from the IQH website, [www.msqio.org](http://www.msqio.org), Quality Initiatives, Reducing Healthcare-Associated Infections. Contact Vickie Taylor for more information, [vtaylor@msqio.sdps.org](mailto:vtaylor@msqio.sdps.org).

Core Measures Help Booklet  
Contact Tracie Bennett for more information, [tbennett@msqio.sdps.org](mailto:tbennett@msqio.sdps.org).

### Enter the IQH WAVE MISSISSIPPI Contest

A "Do the Wave" contest is offering the opportunity to showcase Mississippi provider efforts for reducing infections in their facilities. The Do the WAVE contest is calling for sharing experiences, ideas and successes from WAVE tools ('wash hands,' 'ask questions,' 'vaccinate,' and 'ensure safety'). Sharing efforts will contribute to spreading patient safety improvement ideas throughout the state.

The Reducing Healthcare-Associated Infections Learning & Action (LAN) Network has organized the contest. Entries will be judged on project description, objectives, activities, evaluation methods, timeline, outcomes and sustainability. Announcement of the best entries will take place at an April 2014 LAN meeting. Entries can be PowerPoint presentations, videos, posters, photos or storyboards illustrating how facilities implement the WAVE into infection reduction. For more details, email [vtaylor@msqio.sdps.org](mailto:vtaylor@msqio.sdps.org).

### Save the Dates:

**February 27--** A Learning & Action Network webinar to demonstrate how to incorporate INTERACT in facilities is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 27, from 1 to 2 p.m. Designed to show how to detect problems early to avoid hospitalization for elders, the free IQH webinar will include a discussion led by Mary Helen Conner, BSN, MPH, MCHES, on the evidence-based quality improvement program that will also focus on proper ways to communicate changes in residents' conditions. Beth Gruzinkas, RN, LNHA, WCC, a corporate nurse consultant, will discuss the challenges and successes in implementing the INTERACT program in three of her nursing homes.

**April 24--**Thursday, April 24, 2014, is the date planned for a meeting focusing on the aims of the quality program underway throughout the state. The IQH program will feature an outstanding lineup of speakers addressing the quality efforts in hospitals and nursing homes.

### ***AHQH Congratulates Mississippi Facilities for Achievements AHCA National Quality Award Program***

Several Mississippi facilities have been recognized in the American Health Care Association National Quality Award Program. Providing a pathway for providers of long term care services to work toward performance excellence, the program is based on the core values and criteria of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. Three progressive step levels include bronze, a commitment to quality; silver, achievement in quality; and gold, excellence in quality.

Recognized with the Silver Award for 2013:

- Pine View Health Care Center of Waynesboro

Earning Bronze Recognition, 2013:

- Courtyard Rehabilitation and Healthcare in McComb
- Hilltop Mississippi Healthcare, LLC in Union
- Crystal Health & Rehab of Greenwood, LLC

Applications are judged by trained examiners who provide feedback on opportunities for improvement to support continuous learning. Facilities must achieve an award at each level to progress to the next level.

### ***AHCA Quality Initiative Recognition Program***

Earning recognition in the American Health Care Association's Quality Initiative Recognition Program (QIRP) for achieving the quality initiative goal of safely reducing the off-label use of antipsychotics are two Mississippi facilities:

- Bedford Care Center Monroe Hall, Hattiesburg
- Walter B. Crook Nursing Facility, Ruleville

Staff members will be honored for their achievements at the AHCA Quality Symposium in New Orleans Feb. 10-12.

### ***Fresenius Recognition***

Fresenius Medical Care Lakeland in Flowood has been named a Fresenius Medical Care Center of Distinction for efforts in encouraging adoption of home dialysis and exceptional patient care in the United States. One of five centers selected in 2013 for exception growth in enrollment for its home hemodialysis (HHD) program, Fresenius Medical Care was recognized in an award ceremony honoring the home therapies staff of the clinic Dec. 11. The inaugural year for the Centers of Distinction

program, the designation is based on key factors in home therapy programs.

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